

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method to provide information to multiple data storage devices, comprising the steps of:

providing a computer comprising memory;

providing a ~~first data storage and retrieval system~~ a first data storage device and a ~~second data storage and retrieval system~~ second data storage device, wherein said ~~first data storage and retrieval system~~ first data storage device is capable of communicating with said ~~second data storage and retrieval system~~ second data storage device;

generating said first information by said computer

saving said first information in said memory;

providing a least recently used protocol, wherein one or more of the least recently used files are written to one or more data storage devices;

determining using said least recently used protocol if said first information should be written to one or more information storage media;

operative if said first information should be written to one or more information storage media, providing said first information to said first data storage device and synchronously providing said first information to said second data storage device.

~~providing first information to said data storage and retrieval system;~~

~~determining if said first information must be synchronously provided to said second~~

data storage and retrieval system;

operative if said first information must be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, generating a write command comprising a synchronous copy attribute;

operative if said first information need not be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, generating a write command comprising an asynchronous copy attribute.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said write command comprises a synchronous copy attribute, γ further comprising the following steps:

writing said first information to said first-data storage and retrieval system;

writing said first information to said second-data storage and retrieval system;

a write complete signal.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said first information is provided to said first data storage and retrieval system by a host computer, γ further comprising the step of providing said write complete signal to said host computer.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said write command does not comprise a synchronous copy attribute, and wherein said first data storage device comprises a first information storage medium, further comprising the following steps:

writing said first information to said first information storage medium;

determining if said first information has been written to said first information storage medium;

operative if said first information has been written to said first information storage

medium, generating a write complete signal.

5. Canceled.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:
scheduling the transmission of said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system;

providing said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system;

writing said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system.

7. Canceled.

8. Canceled.

9. Canceled.

10. Canceled.

11. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a processor, a memory, a least recently used protocol wherein one or more of the least recently used files are written to one or more data storage devices, and computer readable medium having computer readable program code disposed therein to provide information from a first data storage and retrieval system first data storage device to a second data storage and retrieval system second data storage device, the computer readable program code comprising a series of computer readable program instructions which cause said processor to carry out a process comprising the steps of:
generating said first information
saving said first information in said memory;
determining using said least recently used protocol if said first information should be written to one or more information storage media;

operative if said first information should be written to one or more information storage media, providing said first information to said first data storage device and synchronously providing said first information to said second data storage device providing first information to said data storage and retrieval system at a first time;

determining if said first information must be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system;

operative if said first information must be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, generating a write command comprising a synchronous copy attribute;

operative if said first information need not be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, generating a write command comprising an asynchronous copy attribute.

12. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 11, wherein said write command comprises a synchronous copy attribute, said computer readable program code further comprising a series of computer readable program instructions which cause said processor to carry out a process comprising the steps of:

writing said first information to said first data storage and retrieval system;
writing said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system;
generating a write complete signal.

13. Canceled.

14. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 11, wherein said write command does not comprise a synchronous copy attribute, said computer readable program

code further comprising a series of computer readable program instructions which cause said processor to carry out a process comprising the steps of:

if said first information must not be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, writing said first information to said first data storage and retrieval system;

operative if said first information has been written to said first information storage medium, generating a write complete signal.

15. Canceled.

16. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 14, said computer readable program code further comprising a series of computer readable program instructions which cause said processor to carry out a process comprising the steps of:

scheduling the transmission of said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system;

providing said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system;

writing said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system.

17. Canceled.

18. Canceled.

19. Canceled.

20. (currently amended) A computer program product usable with a programmable computer processor, said product comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein to provide information from a first data storage device to a second data storage device, said computer readable code comprising:

computer readable program code which causes said programmable computer processor to save said first information in a memory;

computer readable program code which causes said programmable computer processor to determine using a least recently used protocol, wherein one or more of the least recently used files are written to one or more data storage devices, if said first information should be written to one or more information storage media;

computer readable program code which, if said first information should be written to one or more information storage media, causes said programmable computer processor to providing said first information to said first data storage device and synchronously providing said first information to said second data storage device ~~provide said first information to said data storage and retrieval system;~~

~~computer readable program code which causes said programmable computer processor to determining if said first information must be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system;~~

~~computer readable program code which, if said first information must be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, causes said programmable computer processor to generate a write command comprising a synchronous copy attribute;~~

~~computer readable program code which, if said first information need not be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, causes said programmable computer processor to generate a write command comprising an asynchronous copy attribute.~~

21. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 20, further

comprising:

computer readable program code which causes said programmable computer processor to determine if said first information has been written to both said first data storage and retrieval system and to said second data storage and retrieval system;

computer readable program code which, if said first information has been written to both said first data storage and retrieval system and to said second data storage and retrieval system, causes said programmable computer processor to generate a write complete signal.

22. Canceled.

23. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 20, ~~wherein said write command does not comprise a synchronous copy attribute~~, further comprising:

computer readable program code which, if said first information must not be synchronously provided to said second data storage and retrieval system, causes said programmable computer processor to write said first information to said first data storage and retrieval system;

computer readable program code which causes said programmable computer processor to generate a write complete signal.

24. Canceled.

25. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim ~~24~~23, further comprising:

computer readable program code which causes said programmable computer processor to schedule the transmission of said first information to said second data storage and retrieval system.

26. Canceled.

27. Canceled.

28. Canceled.

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